

Corporation for National and Community Service

DISASTER SERVICES UPDATE 8/14/12

DROUGHT RECOVERY

The Disaster Services Unit has begun work with the White House Rural Council to identify ways that National Service can assist with the response and recovery in affected areas. The DSU is collaborating with other federal agencies, including the inter-agency Economic Recovery Support Annex.

TROPICAL STORM DEBBY

In late June, Tropical Storm Debby flooded thousands of homes, washed out roads, opened up sinkholes and closed a section of Interstate 10 — the state's main east-west highway. Four people were killed in the storm. In the Tampa area, more than 20 sinkholes opened up from the flash flooding. Water was up to the roofs at some homes in low lying areas of Live Oak, Fla., on Wednesday. Several feet of water remained around businesses in downtown near the courthouse and many roads were impassable.

LAKE CITY, FL

AmeriCorps NCCC Southern Region

August 11th

River 10, a 10 member team will be deploying August 11th to Lake City, Florida, to support the work of Lake City Regional Office of Catholic Charities (in partnership with Columbia County Emergency Management), performing mucking and gutting operations in flooded homes, as well as delivering disaster recovery information door-to-door, and cleaning any remaining debris in neighborhoods. River 10 will be deployed until September 7th.

WESTERN WILDFIRES

Approximately 200 AmeriCorps members and RSVP volunteers deployed to fight wildfires, manage volunteers and donations, operate emergency shelters, and support call centers in Colorado, New Mexico and Utah since late June. Members of AmeriCorps NCCC, AmeriCorps VISTA, AmeriCorps State & National, and RSVP programs are working with federal, state, and local government agencies, the American Red Cross, the United Way, Adventist Community Services, and other organizations. Additional teams are being deployed as conditions evolve.

ATLANTA, ID

NEW AmeriCorps NCCC Atlantic Region

August 13th

Phoenix 3, an eight member team is deploying to the Trinity Ridge Fire, near Atlanta, ID to support wildfire suppression. Phoenix 3 is deploying with a Fish and Wildlife Reserve team based out of northern Virginia. The team is expected to be deployed until August 28th.

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FORT COLLINS, CO

AmeriCorps NCCC Southwest Region

August 6th

Fire 9, an eleven member team has deployed to Fort Collins to assist Adventist Community Services with donations distribution center operations. Fire 9 will provide center operations maintenance and will assist in expanding the distribution center to provide greater services to the community. This team has extended their term of service in order to serve the Fort Collins community. Fire 9 will end their deployment and their term of service on August 28th.

RSVP

July 30th

In July, 16 RSVP members with 3 Partner Agencies (American Red Cross Centennial Chapter, Catholic Charities of Denver, and Habitat for Humanity) have worked in a direct-response capacity to assist evacuees and survivors of the High Park fire, providing vouchers, case management, necessities, and cleanup.

In addition, 39 RSVP members with a number of other Partners have been working in an indirect response role, working behind the scenes to support organizations who have stepped up to fill in service gaps and provide necessities to evacuees and first responders. The agencies include: HELP International, House of Neighborly Service, Food Bank for Larimer County, Salvation Army, and Bellevue Senior Center.

RSVP has joined the Long Term Recovery coalition in Fort Collins and this effort will have a more comprehensive case management system to track unduplicated clients receiving services from multiple agencies. We should also be able to more easily track how many clients are served by RSVP volunteers working on long-term recovery, whether through one-time projects or as case managers.

RESPONSE TO HEPATITIS C OUTBREAK

A hepatitis C outbreak is affecting Exeter, New Hampshire. At least thirty individuals have been confirmed positive for hepatitis C and state health officials have now expanded the initial number of people that should be screened from 1,300 to 6,000.

EXETER, NH

NEW AmeriCorps NCCC Atlantic Region

August 10th

Moose 4, a nine member NCCC team, deployed to Volunteer New Hampshire to assist CERT and MRC programs to assist with testing community members August 10th and 11th. Moose 4, assisted with greeting, registering and discharging community members. The team also be provided clinic flow assistance, food services and served as runners. Moose 4 has concluded this deployment.

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NEW DISASTER EVENTS

For information on new disaster events, please visit FEMA's daily situation report at:

<http://www.fema.gov/emergency/reports/index.shtm>

Resources

DHS Center for Faith-based & Neighborhood Partnerships Stakeholder Advisory

A Center of the White House Office of Faith-based & Neighborhood Partnerships

Please join Richard Serino, Deputy Administrator of FEMA for the next FEMA Think Tank conference call on August 17, 2012, from Bennington, Vermont.

WHAT: FEMA Think Tank

WHEN: Friday, August 17, 2012, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm (Eastern)

WHERE: Bennington, Vermont

Call In: 888-469-1565

Passcode: Think Tank

Captioning: Individuals who would like to access the captioning for this event may do so by following this link: <http://fedrcc.us//Enter.aspx?EventID=1995294&CustomerID=321>

The FEMA Think Tank is a forum to engage the whole community, connect resources and share best practices, and develop solutions to the challenges we face in emergency management. Featured topics have included new technologies in emergency management; disability integration; the importance of integrating healthcare, public health and emergency management; and our most recent call which highlighted how the emergency management community engages public-private partnerships and building for the future.

The focus of this month's call is a unique opportunity to discuss the role of faith-based and community organizations in advancing the whole community approach to emergency management. The relationships of these organizations with the Federal Disaster Recovery Coordinators as part of the National Disaster Recovery Framework and with emergency managers at the local level are important aspects of the dialogue around creating mutually beneficial partnerships. Also, hearing the experiences and best practices of the local faith community responding to and recovering from disasters is of critical importance.

Please visit the [Think Tank Online Forum](#) and share your innovative ideas on how the role of faith-based and community organizations can advance the whole of community approach in emergency management.

Senior Corps 2.0

Experience for the Future

A FREE Virtual Conference, highlighting new performance measures for Senior Corps programs – RSVP, Foster Grandparent Program, and Senior Companion Program.

The conference is open to current directors and sponsor organizations of Senior Corps programs, and to new organizations interested in sponsoring or partnering with Senior Corps programs.

Register here: <http://www.nationalserviceresources.org/scvirtualconference>

How to Engage Your Community in Service Projects Year Round

[View Webinar Recording](#)

[Download Presentation \(33-page PDF\)](#)

Webinar Overview

On Tuesday, July 10, FEMA's Individual and Community Preparedness Division and Ready.gov presented a FREE Webinar about the importance of community service that trained participants on how to host their own community centered disaster preparedness events. During the presentation, speakers discussed activities and events to organize during National Preparedness Month 2012.

Colorado Wildfire Assistance

For those interested in assisting those affected by the wildfires in Colorado, please visit: www.HelpColoradoNow.org. This website identifies ways to donate time or resources to those in need.

If you would like to learn more about how you can assist communities affected by disaster visit www.serve.gov or <http://www.fema.gov/rebuild/recover/howtohelp.shtm>. If you would like to learn more about how to prepare your family and or community please visit www.ready.gov.